3: Thompson E-5 (1933-1934) 1940 OQ6 Lau OQ6
Kambara

435 436 (*tambua*) of the sperm whale. The whale's tooth serves as a medium of exchange and as a means by which wealth can be accumulated, condensed, and stored. It cannot, however, serve as a standard of value because its ceremonial significance imparts to it an immeasurably sacred value which cannot be compared with the exchange value of other objects. The [556] indefinite term "big" (*levu*) is used to express victory in the economic competition of gift exchange. The donor whose gift is "big" wins prestige.

431 556 476 The Lauan principle of gift exchange emphasizes communal industry and group prestige rather than individual enterprise. It would completely discourage initiative were it not reciprocal and self-perpetuating. In an exchange of property each party seeks to give more than he receives and thus through a material loss to secure a social gain. But the gain in prestige is not permanent. A man or group must continue to distribute in order to maintain the acquired status. Hence it is really the far-sighted, industrious man or group which wins in the long run. Work is rewarded and laziness loses out.

● 732 158 554 The case of Wai illustrates the point. Wai is a half-caste whose mother was a native from the island of Komo and whose father was a European. He is the most maladjusted individual on Kambara. He is physically handicapped not only because of his small bones and relatively short stature but also because he limps badly. Any physical defect such as lameness, blindness, or elephantiasis is mocked by the natives, and on this account Wai has had his share of ridicule. [797] [848] Besides, Wai is classed as a bastard which, since the advent of the missionaries, has been severely censored. Since his father was a European, the natives insist that he has no clan and no land. However, he has been given the use of land in the clan of his wife's mother who came from Tokalau.

158 554 Wai is known as the laziest man on Kambara. At the time of our visit to Kambara he had a house in Tokalau, but the thatched roof leaked, and he with his wife and bastard